



PATENT  
Docket No. 246152012710  
Client Reference 02818 US/DIV1/VS

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Tami M. Procopio  
Tami M. Procopio

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Wilhelmus Theodorus Antonius Maria  
DE LAAT, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/982,474

Filing Date: 17 October 2001

For: INDUSTRIAL PROCESS FOR  
β-LACTAM ANTIBIOTICS USING  
CHEMICALLY DEFINED MEDIA  
(Amended)

Examiner: Randall O. Winston

Group Art Unit: 1651

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

A Request for Continued Examination is submitted herewith. This Preliminary Amendment is in further response to the Final Office Action mailed August 27, 2002 and the Advisory Action mailed February 11, 2003. A Notice of Appeal was filed January 27, 2003 having a due date of March 27, 2003. A one month extension of time is filed herewith thus extending the time for response until April 27, 2003, which was a Sunday. Reconsideration of the present claims, and consideration of the new claims is requested.